

Message Text

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14

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 OES-06 AF-08 ARA-06

NEA-10 SAJ-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 OIC-02 DODE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 L-03 H-02 DOTE-00 FMC-01 SAL-01

CG-00 DLOS-06 /132 W

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R 091602Z JUL 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASDC 1066

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

ALL EC CAPS 95

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5443

PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL, HOROWITZ, LINSSENMAYER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO

SUBJECT: NORWEGIANS CHALLENGE JAPANESE FOR PRESIDENCY OF ILO
MARITIME CONFERENCE

REF: GENEVA 5402

1. NORWEGIAN MISSION OFFICER (HOSTMARK) TOLD US THIS
AFTERNOON THAT HAREIDE (WHO CHAIRED MARITIME PREP CONFERENCE
LAST YEAR) WILL BE NORWEGIAN CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF ILO
MARITIME CONFERENCE FOR OCTOBER. NORWEGIANS PLAN TO SEND
NOTE VERBALE LATER TODAY. HOSTMARK SAID GON FELT EUROPEAN
SHOULD HAVE PRESIDENCY BECAUSE LAST THREE MARITIME
CONFERENCES WERE CHAIRED BY USA, JAPAN AND INDIA AND THAT
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HEREIDE'S EXPERIENCE AS CHAIRMAN OF PREP CONFERENCE WOULD

PROVIDE VALUABLE CONTINUITY FOR MARITIME CONFERENCE. HE EMPHASIZED HAREIDE WAS SUPPORTED NOT ONLY BY NORWEGIAN SEAFARERS BUT BY INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION FEDERATION (ITF). HOSTMARK EXPLAINED RELATIVE SLOWNESS OF GON TO NOMINATE HAREIDE BY SAYING SEVERAL NORWEGIAN CABINET MEMBERS WERE INVOLVED AND "THEIR CLEARANCE COULD NOT BE RUSHED."

2. PRIVATELY HOSTMARK SAID THERE NO PRECEDENCES FOR CHOOSING A CONFERENCE PRESIDENT (INTIMATING THAT BOTH NORWEGIAN AND JAPANESE CLAIMS WERE ARGUABLE, AND THAT US DECISION WOULD BE DIFFICULT. HOSTMARK EXPECTED THAT USG WOULD MAKE DECISION ON BASIS OF REALPOLITIK AND SUPPORT CANDIDATE MOST LIKELY TO WIN; IN THIS CONTEXT HE REITERATED THAT ITF SUPPORTED HAREIDE AND SUGGESTED THIS MIGHT BE CRUCIAL FACTOR.

3. AT GENEVA GROUP MEETING THIS MORNING JAPANESE READ STATEMENT APPEALING FOR SUPPORT AND REGRETTING LATE ANNOUNCEMENT OF "CANDIDATE OF NORDIC COUNTRY." PRIVATELY THEY TOLD US THAT NORWEGIAN EMBASSY IN TOKYO SAID THIS MORNING THAT THEY WERE UNAWARE OF ANY NORWEGIAN CANDIDATE. HOSTMARK TOLD US HE HAD TOLD JAPANESE ON JULY 5 THAT GON WAS INTERESTED AND LOOKING FOR CANDIDATE BUT HAD NOT YET NOMINATED ONE. HOSTMARK SAID GON DECISION REACHED GENEVA LATE YESTERDAY.

4. WE TOLD HOSTMARK WE WOULD FORWARD NOMINATION TO WASHINGTON BUT THAT EARLY DECISION WAS NOT LIKELY BECAUSE USG WOULD WISH TO CONSULT WITH US SEAFARERS AND OWNERS.

5. COMMENT: PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF JAPANESE AND NORWEGIAN CANDIDATES MAY ENCOURAGE EE COUNTRY TO ENTER THE RACE. DISADVANTAGE TO US OBJECTIVES AT MARITIME CONFERENCE OF NORWEGIAN CANDIDACY IS FACT THAT NORWEGIAN CANDIDACY BASED IN PART ON ASSERTION OF EUROPEAN TURN FOR CONFERENCE PRESIDENCY, AND THIS MAY ALSO ENCOURAGE EASTERN EUROPEAN CANDIDATE.DALE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LOBBYING, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA05443
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760266-0349
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760776/aaaacnyz.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 GENEVA 5402
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <25 AUG 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORWEGIANS CHALLENGE JAPANESE FOR PRESIDENCY OF ILO MARITIME CONFERENCE
TAGS: ELAB, NO, JA, ILO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006